

Foreign Language Publications

The Advisory Committee's concern with the administration of the Government's foreign publications procurement program was underlined on 29 June with the release of the recommendations of the Hoover Task Force concerning the Central Intelligence Agency. Recommendation No. 6 which calls for relocation of administrative responsibility for the program points up the continuing failure to reach effective solutions for such problems as interagency coordination of procurement in Eastern Europe and the Far East, restoration of coverage in such major publishing areas as Great Britain and the Near East, and systematic recruitment, training, and direction of staff.

Recent developments have borne out to a limited degree the earlier predictions of an improved flow of Soviet literature to the West in 1955. Of major significance is the reappearance of such technical journals as Stal' (Steel), Zavodskaya Laboratoriya (Factory Laboratory), and Gornyy Zhurnal (Mining Journal) and of the principal Soviet weekly bibliographic journal Knizhnaya Letopis' (Book Annals) following an absence of some eight years from the shelves of western libraries. A preliminary analysis of a January issue showed that 35% of 350 monographs have been procured for U. S. institutions during the initial four months of availability. Detailed studies of Soviet publishing by subject category and in terms of institutes and key individuals are underway in the intelligence community.

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